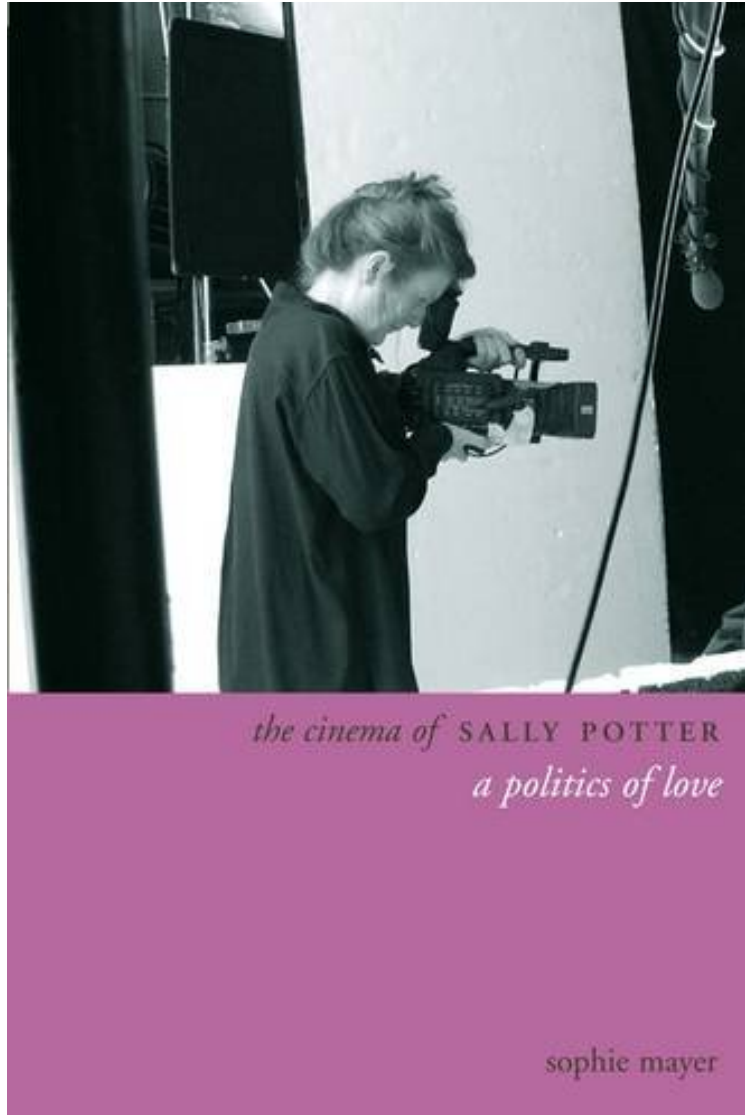


[E-BOOK] The Cinema of Sally Potter: A Politics of Love (Directors' Cuts)

The Cinema of Sally Potter: A Politics of Love (Directors' Cuts)

Sophie Mayer

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Sophie Mayer : The Cinema of Sally Potter: A Politics of Love (Directors' Cuts) before purchasing it in order to gage whether or not it would be worth my time, and all praised The Cinema of Sally Potter: A Politics of Love (Directors' Cuts):

Internationally renowned as a filmmaker, writer and composer, Sally Potter has always been a provocateur: as a feminist filmmaker and performer, a leading light of the BFI Production Board generation, a British filmmaker Oscar-

nominated for a low-budget costume drama, and a pioneer of digital cinema. Drawing on exclusive access to archival materials and in-depth interviews with Britain's most independent director, *The Cinema of Sally Potter: A Politics of Love* opens up vivid historical, political, and cultural vistas to give the first full account of this extraordinary career. Potter's award-winning films *Thriller* (1979), *Orlando* (1992), *The Tango Lesson* (1997), *The Man Who Cried* (2000), and *Yes* (2004), are valued by cinephiles and theorists alike for their evocative sensuality, incisive wit and explosive refusal of cinematic clichés, qualities famously crystallized in *Orlando*'s generously and exactingly reciprocal gaze to-camera. That gaze is the dynamic core of Potter's formally and politically radical reconception of cinema in her most recent film *Rage* (2009), told entirely through talking-heads shot against greenscreen. While *Rage* looks ahead to a new economy, both financial and visual, it draws deeply on Potter's committed refashioning of cinematic looking and listening through her attention to what dominant culture neglects and suppresses: labor, performance, beauty, poetry, listening, and the spirit of place. Putting the unseen on screen, Potter's films fill the viewer with wonder and desire, enacting the possibilities of cinema as love.

It is rare to come across a book that so skilfully combines probing analysis, theoretical sophistication, infectious curiosity and wit in highly readable prose. *The Cinema of Sally Potter* is, like the work of the artist it discusses, a labor of love, which argues powerfully for the political urgency of Potter's films and their capacity to transform our perception of the world. (Libby Saxton, Queen Mary, University of London)